

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-05 AGR-20 EB-12 SWF-02 COME-00

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FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8236

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 4247

STATE PASS AID/PHA/FDRC

MEXICO, GUATEMALA AND BOGOTA FOR AGATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL, HO

SUBJECT: FLINT HIGH LYSINE CORN SEEDS

1. AS MISSION DEVELOPS SHORT TERM RURAL REHABILITATION PLANS, A PRIMARY OBJECTIVE WILL BE TO HELP PEOPLE GET BACK TO THEIR LAND AND INTO PRODUCTION AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE. TO DO THIS THEY WILL NEED THE BASIC WHEREWITHAL TO CLEAR AND PREPARE THE LAND AND PLANT THEIR CROPS. AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF COURSE WILL BE SEEDS.

2. IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED THAT THE FIFI DISASTER MAY HAVE PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY TO INTRODUCE IMPROVED SEED VARIETIES, POSSIBLY INCLUDING MORE NUTRITIOUS ONES SUCH AS HIGH LYSINE CORN. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO IDENTIFY SOURCES OF AVAILABLE HARD ENDOSPERM HIGH LYSINE CORN REPEAT HARD ENDOSPERM HIGH LYSINE CORN AND TO SEEK ADDITIONAL EXPERT ADVICE AS TO THE ADVISABILITY OF INTRODUCING IT IN THIS SITUATION.

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3. WE ESTIMATE POSSIBLY 34,000 ACRES OF LAND IN HURRICANE-AFFECTED AREAS WILL GO INTO PRODUCTION OF CORN. MISSION CONSIDERING OBTAINING SUFFICIENT HIGH LYSINE CORN SEEDS FOR 5 PERCENT OF TOTAL OR 1,700 TO 2,000 ACRES. ON BASIS 20 POUNDS OF SEED PER ACRE, WE WILL NEED ABOUT 35 TO 40,000 POUNDS OF SEED. WE UNDERSTAND THAT ONLY FLINT (HARD ENDOSPERM) HIGH LYSINE CORN LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTABLE IN TERMS SHIPMENT/STORAGE DURABILITY AND FARMER AND CONSUMER ACCEPTANCE.

4. WE UNDERSTAND SEED MAY BE AVAILABLE IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES ONLY IN MEXICO, COLOMBIA AND GUATEMALA. IN LIGHT OF THIS;

A) PLEASE ADVISE LOCAL AVAILABILITY OF FLINT HIGH LYSINE CORN SEEDS, OR OTHER POTENTIAL SOURCES, AND LIKELY COST DELIVERED TO SAN PEDRO SULA. WOULD NEED IN HONDURAS MAXIMUM ONE MONTH FROM NOW:

B) WOULD APPRECIATE ADDRESSEES EXPERT OPINIONS ON VIABILITY OF MISSION PROPOSAL.

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## Message Attributes

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